

New York Tribune.

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Thaw's Escape from the Custody of an Impotent State.

With the escape of Thaw the scandal is complete. The public needs no more proof that the murderer with money is safe. We had two illustrations of the power of the law over rich slayers, the prison sentence of the murderer Hains and the confinement in an asylum of the murderer Thaw. A muddle-headed Governor speedily released Hains. And Thaw's money bought his way to freedom as soon as he tired of trying to find the softhead on the bench that the State Bar Association predicted he would find.

Doubtless, aided by his fortune, he could have walked out of Matteawan long ago if he had not with his paranoiac audacity insisted for years upon having a certificate of sanity from the authorities who had locked him up. Despairing at length of being legally released, he has finally availed himself of one of the opportunities to escape which Dr. Austin Flint said a few months ago had frequently been afforded to him.

There has been nothing but disgrace for the state in this whole Thaw affair. The first trial, with its delays and sensationalism, brought upon New York's criminal trial system the contempt of the entire world. The second trial, conducted in a more decent and orderly fashion, ended, under our stupid laws regarding insanity as a defence, in a verdict of not guilty and an order from the judge for the confinement of Thaw while his insanity lasted.

Then began a struggle to keep in confinement a man who had been pronounced insane by a jury upon evidence showing incurable insanity. Large sums of money, much time of the legal representatives of the state and much force of public opinion were spent to accomplish an end which should under any decent system of law and its administration be the simplest possible, the protection of society from a lunatic of demonstrated homicidal tendencies.

Every one who took part in it felt that it would be a losing fight in the end. Even organizations of the bar, knowing the law and the courts, predicted that it would be a losing fight. Every one could see the shame that was coming. It needed not the oft repeated news that the crazy murderer's money was corrupting his keepers, that he enjoyed scandalous favors in confinement, that he was practically master of his asylum, the "Czar of Matteawan," and that hosts of grafters were permitted by the state to fasten upon him and make him a "human meal ticket," to deepen the sense of shame and make the public feel its utter failure to take adequate and adequate means for its own protection.

And now in his own good time Thaw walks out of jail and by merely crossing the state's boundary line is able to laugh at its authority and resume his career of degenerate debauchery, which will bring back his homicidal promptings once more.

New York should spare no effort to get Thaw back into its custody. And it should pass laws that cannot be made the playthings of rich criminal maniacs and establish prison asylums out of which rich criminal maniacs cannot walk.

Sulzer and the Fight Against the Boss.

It is entirely within the right of Mr. Thomas W. Lawson or any one else to contribute whatever he pleases to a defence fund for Governor Sulzer in the impeachment proceedings. It is entirely within the right of Governor Sulzer and his friends to appeal for funds to help his defence, if they care to do so, while the campaign fund episode still is unsettled. But when the appeal is made for a Sulzer defence fund on the ground that such a fund will be used to drive out the Murphys, destroy the system and balk a foul plot to seize the state and destroy constitutional government, is there not much confusion of ideas?

The political boss system represented by Murphy and Tammany should be destroyed, if it is within human power to destroy it. It is an evil creature, with its works in every public department. Murphy, as the present head of this system, should be driven out of power. But will defending Sulzer do it? Sulzer is the most illustrious product of this system. There is no misconception anywhere about why the evidence to impeach him was collected. It was because for various reasons he had ceased to work in harmony with the head of the system. That did not by and of itself make him an indispensable agency for destroying the boss system.

Sulzer is now awaiting trial on impeachment charges of perjury, theft and misuse of official powers. That fact must not be lost sight of in any ebullition of anti-boss hatred or desire to obliterate Tammany. He should have as fair a trial as the legal system of any state can give, regardless of the motives which may have precipitated that trial. He should not have what it seems to be the aim of some of his friends to procure for him—support and sympathy, regardless of guilt or innocence, simply because he fought Murphy and Murphy and Tammany are fighting him. It is a recommendation for any man that he has fought Tammany hard enough to make Tammany fight back. Governor Sulzer should have due credit for this. And he has had credit and support in his fight so long as it ap-

peared that he was in any position to fight Tammany. If the court of impeachment exonerates him he will be more than ever able to lead successfully the fight to wipe Murphy off the political map.

Until that time any attempt to argue that Sulzer, regardless of what he may have done, is better than Tammany is puerile. Sulzer must stand or fall on his own acts, not on the basis of being an antagonist of Tammany. Sulzer found guilty of the things charged against him would be merely of a piece with Tammany's foulest, ending, as he began, a Tammany product. If this Sulzer case stirs up so righteous a wrath against Tammany and Tammany methods that the voters sweep the whole fabric out of power at the coming election much good will result. But the cause should not be confused in anybody's mind with the effect.

Caravanning.

We must own to a sneaking interest in that very English institution, the caravan. Bad roads have made such gypsying almost an impossibility in this country in the past. But, why may not better roads and better days be coming?

There is much to be said for this equitable method of taking in a countryside, and we plunge eagerly into the details of the game in England, as portrayed by a connoisseur in caravans. The conveyance itself can be hired from the Caravan Club at a charge running from \$4 to \$40 a week. Something very fancy, looking like a Pullman car and named Marlborough or Alexandra, would come for the latter figure, we suppose. With living charges and all thrown in, the weekly expense is put at \$10 for each individual caravanner.

It seems that the construction of suitable land-going craft is becoming a real art in England, so widely has this sport taken hold. Something of the snugness and convenience of the small, cruising sailboat is still lacking. But the craft of the caravan marches goes steadily on. Who knows but that it will yet cross the Atlantic!

Prevention Is Better than Cure.

Fire Commissioner Johnson seems to be thoroughly alive to the more important side of his work—the work of prevention rather than cure. His plans to get theatre managers and theatregoers educated to the possibility of avoidance of panic in case of fire are excellent. They deserve the hearty co-operation of the theatre managers and the serious attention of the theatre audiences.

It is well known that panic kills its scores where fire kills its units in theatre disasters. Commissioner Johnson believes this can be avoided by systematic mind training. Panic, he points out, is nothing more than unpreparedness or unalertness of mind. The person who is prepared for the emergency will be able to come out of it safely. Theatres are unusually safe buildings so far as fire is concerned, with many exits. Yet in case of disaster the audiences struggle to get out the way they came in, neglecting the emergency exits.

The solution of that difficulty is for each person in the audience to select the nearest exit to be used in case of emergency, and if the emergency arises to remember to go to that exit quickly, but without struggling with other persons. All this, of course, is old—so old that it is totally neglected by most persons, who in consequence are unprepared for trouble. If Commissioner Johnson and the theatre managers, working together, can educate the audiences into a state of preparedness of mind they will have reduced danger of loss of life to a minimum.

The Baseball Slaves.

Much sympathy has been expressed from time to time for those "human chattels," the hirelings of the major league baseball teams, who are objects of a barter and trade sometimes held to be contrary to law. Yet one of them, "Ty" Cobb, draws \$12,500 a year salary, and is desired by a manager who says he is willing to pay \$100,000 for him; while Johnson, the remarkable pitcher of the Senators, is demanding that he, too, receive a salary of \$12,500 next year or he'll quit the game. And he'll probably get it.

Men like Cobb, Mathewson, Marquard and Johnson are the aristocrats of this "slavery." Even the field hands, though, receive salaries which rank well with those of the average professional man. This has been made possible by the tight organization of the baseball leagues which hold them in slavery, so they benefit by their shackles. They may seek sympathy for them at times, but they'd hate to change conditions.

State, Not Amendment, at Fault.

The embarrassing hitch over the filling of the Alabama vacancy in the United States Senate is charged by many against the Seventeenth Amendment to the Constitution. Thus, "The Newark Evening News" alleges "a flaw in the amendment," since it says merely that "henceforth Senators shall be elected by vote of the people directly." It says nothing about vacancies that may occur by death or resignation.

The fact is that the amendment does say something very explicit about the filling of vacancies, however caused. It says that when one happens the executive authority of the state shall call an election to fill it. But in order that there may be no delay in filling it, so that the state may not for even a day be deprived of its equal representation in the Senate, it further provides that "the Legislature of any state may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election."

The trouble in this case seems to be that the Alabama Legislature has not yet authorized the Governor to fill Senatorial vacancies. The state, not the amendment, is at fault. The incident ought to move the Legislature of every state to give the Governor the needed authority, and that at the earliest possible moment.

The Woman of the Future.

Under the above absorbing title the London "Pall Mall Gazette" has stirred up a hornets' nest of vigorous letters. The original article took a rather gloomy view of present feminine tendencies. The writer spoke regretfully of the Victorian type of woman now vanished from the British Isles. The new independence and vigor seemed to him poor substitutes for the fine feminine virtues of a half century ago.

Since then every angle of the subject has been discussed. Women are going to the dogs. Women were never so glorious. Woman has not budged an inch. And so on. The one clear fact seems to be that England is very much excited about her women and not at all sure "whether she is drifting."

For a sample of the optimistic view let us quote from the letter of an actress:

I have a profound and growing admiration for women; they seem to me to be becoming finer, with

a great strength and self-reliance, a splendid sense of honor, and a knowledge of things as they really are, which cannot but be a help to them in their making.

Equally in love with the modern female is a man who feels that to pass from the 1830 girl to the girl of 1913 is like passing from a stuffy room into the fresh air. He continues:

The fainting, mincing lady of the early Victorian era simply cannot be compared with the girl of this day, acquainted with cold water, fresh air and sunlight, any more than an enervated orchid can be compared with a freely blooming flower. The modern girl, unlike her granny, does not swoon at the sight of the curate. The curate is most likely to swoon at the sight of the modern girl. She does not overlay her body with garments so that she cannot move easily or decently. She does not fill her mind with saccharine, nor spend hours in sighing for him, nor waste cotton and thread in manufacturing infantries in her leisure moments, nor wallow in imbecile ballads, nor rigidly close her mind to the things that matter.

At the other extreme are the Victorians, who have it that the modern woman cannot compare with her mother or grandmother in health, courtesy, ability or morals. One elderly correspondent especially represents the charge that the Victorian lady "fainted" and "minded." The buxom, rosy cheeked girls in Leech's drawings she puts forward as the true type of the past. As for the present, this writer complains of the "brusque" manners of the young girl of the period, and thinks that cheap emotions proceeding from "cheap education, a cheap press and a cheap drama" have worked a degeneracy of feminine character.

From these extreme views we may turn to another "Victorian" who steers a middle course. This letter writer, a man, likes the older generation and the younger as well. Restlessness, he concedes. But he sees "no evidence of the fatal dry rot among the women which preceded the downfall of Rome or of the Second Empire in France." He concludes:

The old, invincible Mutterdrang will keep the majority of women true to their compass, if men will only permit them to fulfill themselves.

This seems excellent sense with which to close this symposium on the most interesting subject in the world.

Mr. Bryan's reasons for lecturing seem to simmer down to the fact that he wanted the money.

Murphy himself probably never dreamed he had such power and resources as the Sulzer press agents accord to him.

Since impeachments are in the air, why not let the grand jury try its hand at Mayor Gaynor in connection with the police raids on Healy's?

AS I WAS SAYING

Ever hungering after sweetness and light, we opened our paper, and nibbled as follows:

"The court commented sharply on the presence of women."

"I see very young women in the rear of the courtroom," said the judge. "Are they accompanied by their mothers or chaperons?"

"One of the girls spoke up and said they were."

"If that's the case," said the judge, "then the responsibility is on them and not on the court."

Oh, sweetness! Oh, light! How we relish this pretty incident of the Dicks-Cammett trial! Not in years have we tasted a more delicious morsel.

For there are things that have to get worse before they can get better, and, by jingo, we can name one! Give her her head—so called. Set her "free." Do not rebuke that cry of a girlish heart, "It's me for the pigpen!" Enough of this, and we shall see wonder.

Old maids, perhaps. Why should our young men marry at home when such awfully nice girls, by comparison, are going to waste in "cleaner, greener lands"? There has been far too much prejudice against color.

But we doubt if it will come to that. What we foresee is a pretty rigorous blue-pencilling of the home-grown article. Allow us to quote from "The Elegant Female" for August, 1913:

"No, A. T. W., you should not allow your daughter to see 'Shore Acres.' It is a harmless play, perhaps, but respectable young women do not attend the theatre."

"Will any decent girl dance the Virginia Reel? That depends. At home, among her brothers, cousins and uncles, she may. At parties, never. It is a step in the wrong direction, and leads to dancing."

"We cannot too hotly denounce the license that permits unmarried women to sit on the piazza. Several scandals of this sort have occurred lately. In one instance the culprit could be seen from the street."

"M. T. L. writes: 'Do you think my daughter should be allowed to read "Pilgrim's Progress"? We have the expurgated edition.' Our answer is: Yes, if the girl is over eighteen."

"Several questions have been asked us about the morality of dress, but the whole point may be summed up thus: The new veil is no thicker than an ordinary bath towel. When worn at dinner it reveals every line of the nose bag. We cannot believe that any properly brought up young woman will be guilty of such brazen immodesty. As for the slit veil, we think it all right if smoked goggles are worn under the slit."

In a word, then, the American young girl will soon pay for her fun. Other countries have gone the gay road and are going, and this—or something marvellously like it—has been the consequence. Look at France. Look at French liberty—not to say French license—and then at the jeune fille. For that blissful young creature they have plagiarized a maxim from George Ade: "Keep her in a barrel."

So here's to the ladies, God bless 'em! When Theodore subsided vociferously, and Germany gaggled the Kaiser, and Brother Hobson shut up, and Dr. Cook cut for cover, and Mr. Ballinger stopped devouring Giff Pinchot, and it was no longer thought merry to snap apple seeds at Mr. John D. Rockefeller, we wondered what would become of paragraphing. Then, just as we were about to write "Ichabod" on our tottering column, we heard a whoop and a yell, and along thundered lovely woman, in whom there was more hob than the poets at their sweetest ever hinted.

But there are other problems. For instance: Which is the most circus—a bounced ambassador, a certain ex-President or an impeached Governor?

We are a great people. "Forward!" is our watchword. But we forget that now and then it is the summit of art and science and philosophy to go "way back and sit down."

Those captains courageous aboard the Cunarders report many hair-lifting perils encountered in making port at Queenstown, and beg to be excused. Oh, timid! We have touched at Queenstown ourselves. Naturally, our heart was in our mouth, but the vessel anchored several paragraphs from the shore and there were no demonstrations of a hostile character. True, the natives came off in boats, and the black canes they brought with them had shocking sharp prongs sticking out. Yet a few kind words saved the day. Indeed, the affair passed off really very pleasantly, and not without profit to the natives.

R. L. H.

HELPLESS!



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

WIPE OUT TAMMANY!

The People of New York Should Arise in Their Might.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Tammany is a cankerous sore that has been eating into the vitality of our life. Its first concern is self. Our body politic has been too long affected by it, and the time is at hand to wipe it out.

A moral awakening has spread over the land. Why not in New York City for better conditions? The patriotic ardor of Tammany is inspired by gain, and its love of the people is a subterfuge.

May the people of New York rise in their might to wipe it out, a sore that has been running to the discredit of a nation's honor, and in New York, the largest city and the great Empire State. Bossism of the Tammany stripe should be brought to an end. And if the people rule, may it be to their credit! Purge themselves! Cleanse the body politic!

MAX HENRY NEWMAN.

Boston, Aug. 14, 1913.

THE MEN OF BRITAIN

An American Resident Reports the Existence of Unpleasant Types.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I have read with amazement in your issue of the 19th ult. the exhorting address of Mrs. Hatty Darling, delivered at the Moral Education Society. Mrs. Darling, if quoted correctly, avers that "Miss Inez Milholland was justified in choosing an American husband, because the American man had failed to come up to her ideal in manners." I don't believe Miss Milholland would ratify this absurd sentiment.

After indulging in further vituperation of America's young men Mrs. Darling proceeds to extol the European women's habits, saying, "They stay at home, and bring up the children; do not go shopping, nor play bridge." This is another wide-horizoned perversion of facts, as I know from personal observations, acquired by a ten-year residence in London.

Here is to be found galore, in all their supremacy, the very type of men that the lecturer claims abound in America in such numbers that precluded Miss Milholland from obtaining an American husband from the young men who "roll around, smoking cigarettes and hugging their feet." Now, if Mrs. Darling imagines that this class of men are non-existent here she is laboring under a pronounced delusion. They are daily graduating into the "snobbish" class, whose walk, actions, cigarette smoking and general demeanor in public places are nauseating in the extreme.

Lady Cook, I see, stated that the general purpose of the society was to "encourage all virtues, especially eugenics." It is to be fervently hoped that after this has been accomplished they will extend their activities to London, for here the Moral Education Society will find a field rich in vines to labor in.

MARY SCOTT ROWLAND.

Savoy Hotel, London, Aug. 8, 1913.

A RIVAL POET ADVISES

The Ambitious Young Lady Is Advised to Pause for a Second Thought.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am very much interested in the letter of your correspondent signing herself "Ambition," inclosing a trochaic quatrain and asking if you think she has a taste for writing verse. She states she believes that perhaps in time "she could grow to be a poetess." Perhaps I am the more interested and the more keenly sympathetic because I myself have an ambi-

tion to enter the literary field and have consequently learned the value of healthful criticism.

So it is in the most kindly spirit that I venture to criticize her lines as they appear to me. In the first place, I knew at once when I read that the young woman had completed her effort in ten minutes that she had fallen into the pit of almost every beginner in the field of poetry—the commonplace. When I read in the first line, "Time is fleeting fast away," had I placed a sheet of paper over the other lines I should have been quite confident she was going to tell me, in effect, that death is drawing nearer and that heaven's gates are open wide to receive us. It therefore failed to inspire me. As the lines stand, I think if the author had used the verb "moves" in the line "Death gets nearer every day," there would have been a resulting smoothness that "gets" does not inspire. "Death gets nearer" sounds harsh, and one would naturally expect some untoward thing to follow if he had not guessed the ending from the first line. On the contrary, we find that death is a glorious thing, for we are told that heaven's gates are open wide.

It seems impossible accurately to estimate Miss Ambition's ability from the result of the expenditure of ten minutes of time. For her benefit I should like to say that I have composed scores of what I thought were poems at the time I was constructing them. But I laid them away for a while, and when I took them out again I shook my head sadly—they were not poems; they were empty rhymes.

I should advise the young woman to imbibe the nectar of poetry from those whom the world recognizes as true poets. Let her lay away her lines after she has put her best in them and take them out at some later period after they have been for a time forgotten. If when she reads her lines then the words spring from the paper and grip her and hold her, she can tell as nearly as any one else the character of her composition—she will know that she has written something worth while.

NEW JERSEY.

New York, Aug. 12, 1913.

CANADA THE COLONY

Should She Be Included in a Concert of Western Powers?

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In your issue of August 9 you had a leading article under the heading of "Canada and Other American States" in which you did me the honor of quoting from a letter I sent you lately on the propriety of adding Canada to the list of American states, to wit: Brazil, Argentina, Chili and Peru—which you suggested should act in concert with this country in exercising their influence for peace in Mexico. You therein expressed an opinion that while Canada is geographically American, yet she is diplomatically European, and as such, no matter how autonomous, is a European and not an American "appanage."

I would urge that as her inhabitants are racially the same as those of this country, upholding the same love of peace and the same ethics of civilization, it would be of inestimable advantage that she should be able to add her moral force to that of the United States should any serious difference of opinion arise between us and the four above named Latin nations.

Again, the term of a "European appanage" would be scarcely acceptable to a Canadian, nor does it do justice to the recognized position of Canada as a self-governing country, albeit under the sovereign rule of the King of England and his dominions beyond the seas. It would be as lord paramount of Canada that he would act in such steps as in the collective wisdom of all these American countries would tend to bring about the cessation of this disastrous period of anarchy in a sister state. Moreover, as he has given recognition to Huerta as President of Mexico, any unwelcome ad-

vice coming in concert from these two North American powers would be more likely to be received in the kindly spirit in which it would be offered.

The present condition of Mexico is of great concern to the whole civilized world, and if comparatively small American countries—merely because they are American—are to be called into any council of pacification the right of Canada to a seat thereat is incontestable.

VERNER DE GUISE.

Highwood, N. J., Aug. 15, 1913.

MEMORIALS TO KING EDWARD

Request Is Made for Information of All That Exist.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: May I ask for the hospitality of your columns to enable me to state that by desire of her majesty Queen Alexandra I have undertaken to collect particulars for publication in due course of all memorials of whatever description, at home, in the colonies and abroad, to his late majesty King Edward, as also of any events connected with the King during his life of which there has been any record.

I shall be much obliged, therefore, to hear from those who may be connected with such memorials or events, when I shall be glad to send particulars of the information required.

COLONEL SIR JAMES GILDEA, K. C.

V. O. C. B. 11 Hogarth Road, S. W. London, Aug. 7, 1913.

THE UNSCRUPULOUS FEMALE

She Attacks St. Paul and Ignores Authority, Is the Complaint.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: These "suffragettes" seem to have no scruples whatever about taking any position which will apparently advance their own cause, even if in so doing they ignore the commands of God and the wisdom of men.

For instance, "M. L. B." in your issue of this date brands St. Paul as an ignorant, brutal, contemptible person, and practically substitutes his (or her) own views as to common sense and practical teachings for her (or his) fellow man—including sister-woman.

But Paul ranks first as a writer of epistles, both in quality and number, and the sneers of "M. L. B." if effective, would deprive us of more than one-half of the entire twenty-seven books of the New Testament.

Further than this, Paul does not stand alone, as the third chapter of Genesis (ver. 15) reads, "Thy husband shall rule over thee"; and in Peter, chapter three (ver. 1 to 6), we are informed that "Wives are to be in subjection to their husbands."

Of course, if everybody is to reject, alter, change and use his own judgment about portions of the Word of God, then we have a principle established which will render the whole Book of no effect. WILLIAM E. TALMAN.

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 14, 1913.

LINES TO WOULD-BE POETESS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Oh, do not use your minutes ten To take up that poetic pen. Stenographers, when young and fair, Should use that time to treat their hair.

H. T.

Brooklyn, Aug. 13, 1913.

THAT'S TRUE, IT MIGHT.

From The Philadelphia Ledger.

The Argentine Republic has voted \$250,000 wherewith to purchase a legation building at Washington. If our government did not have to build \$100,000 postoffices in 15,000 towns it might also afford to house its ambassadors.